

BOOKENDS

Sunday, May 8, 2022 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 3 | **From Wedding to Wedding**

Genesis 2:18-25; Revelation 19:7-9

God created us **LACKING**

not good to be alone Genesis 2:18

male and female – “a complement/helper – suitable/fit for/corresponding to him” Genesis 1:27ff; 2:18-25

and invented **MARRIAGE**

a small private garden wedding Genesis 2:22-24



God's Design for Marriage

one man + one woman
for one lifetime

a massive public urban wedding Revelation 19:7-9

to vividly illustrate his **COMMITMENT** to us!

covenant love Genesis 15:8-17; Ephesians 5:22-33; 2:4-7; Philippians 3:12; 1:6; 2 Thessalonians 3:3; Titus 3:3-7

hold fast to him Deuteronomy 10:20; John 15:3-4ff



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser.

Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you!

You can also access today's bulletin using the same QR or link.



What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card at the Connect Desk.

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this as a guide for further study and growth personally.

Getting Started

Part of our time together is learning more about one another and sharing life. Toward that end...

When was the last time you made something by following a set of plans? What are the best plans to follow? Any stories of following the plans and it not working?

Review...

We're in a series called Bookends, looking at the beginning and the end of Scripture, and how they parallel one another. **Review your message notes.** What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it as a group.

Digging Deeper

To build a house we need a design and a blueprint from an architect. We want the design to be both beautiful and comfortable, a house that fulfills our dreams.

This week's study will explore some of God's designs and plans for gender, relationship, and marriage in Genesis.

1. How would you design the foundation for a satisfying marriage? What about just a satisfying friendship in general? What essential materials would you use?
2. God created man and woman in his image (**Genesis 1:26-27**). What various male and female characteristics help you understand what "the image of God" is?
3. God declares all he has created is very good (**Genesis 1:31**). This includes being male or female. How can God's "very good" help you accept and respect the uniqueness of your gender?

4. What responsibilities and resources did God give to the man and woman (**Genesis 1:26-30; 2:8-9, 15-17**)?
5. **Read Genesis 2:18-25.** For the first time God declares something in his creation "not good" (**2:18**). Put yourself in the man's place. How would the parade of animals intensify your loneliness?
6. What was the man's part and God's part in meeting Adam's need?
7. What tone of voice do you think the man used in his reaction to the woman (**2:23**)?
8. What marriage principles do you draw from **2:24**?
9. God created marriage primarily to meet our need for companionship. But sometimes a child or a parent can thwart that purpose. How can you guard your companionship in the midst of the pressure of family responsibilities?
10. Why was there no shame or self-consciousness between the man and woman (**2:25**)?
11. Why do you think that fact is noted here?
12. How has this passage helped you see that God provides for our emotional, physical and spiritual needs in his marriage design?
13. What surprises you, comforts you or disturbs you about God's design?

Closing

Reflect on God's design for exclusive, permanent, oneness and companionship in marriage. Consider the steps you can take now to prepare for or to enjoy his design.

Pray for everyone in your group by name.

This week's Study Guide is adapted from James Reapsome and Martha Reapsome, Marriage: God's Design for Intimacy: 11 Studies for Individuals or Groups, A LifeGuide Bible Study (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect: An Imprint of InterVarsity Press, 1999), 9-11.

L T G G G K U G Y B A L C V O
 R H L O U D P U L A M B W L P
 H E A R D S P R E P A R E D T
 J N D F K I R G L O R Y A T F
 C C A H T H U N D E R Y R C F
 N L L R B A T E S T I M O N Y
 V O I C E L V R O S A Y I N G
 G R K C C L A L M I G H T Y I
 U D E O A E S H E O E R U F V
 U J I M U L T I T U D E C F E
 L J J E S U S R H K T J R I Y
 B R I D E J U E I Y S O U N D
 T C A S C A D I N G L I N E N
 H B R I G H T G G A Y C H B J
 J R U M B L I N G I V E N P V
 I B W A T E R S A I D K K B J

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Revelation 19:6-10 (CSB)

Find the words **bolded** below.

6 Then I heard something like the voice of a vast multitude, like the sound of cascading waters, and like the rumbling of loud thunder, saying, **Hallelujah, because our Lord God, the Almighty, reigns!** ⁷ Let us be glad, rejoice, and give him glory, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has prepared herself. ⁸ She was given fine linen to wear, bright and pure. For the fine linen represents the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Write: Blessed are those invited to the marriage feast of the Lamb!" He also said to me, "These words of God are true." ¹⁰ Then I fell at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers and sisters who hold firmly to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, because the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."